Starting WarnGen and Generating a Storm Moti...

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Purpose:

This task demonstrates the basic steps of starting WarnGen in the D-2D perspective and using the storm centroid marker to generate a storm motion vector and warning polygon. Other WarnGen exercises are also available for use on your local WES machine using WES Exercise #6 (WarnGen).

Tasks:

This task is only to be completed on WES-2 Bridge and not a live AWIPS, to ensure no warnings are accidentally sent out.

1. From the **ktlx radar menu**, select **0.5Z+SRM8** and **toggle to Z** using the **"." key** on the keypad and navigate to the **last frame**.

2. **Zoom in** on an **isolated storm** using the scroll wheel.

3. **Left-click** on the **WarnGen button**.

4. **Left-click** on **Severe Thunderstorm** in the WarnGen window.
   - Leave the Duration at 45min and scroll through the WarnGen defaults to see the fields you can change.
   - For this simple exercise we will assume the basis is radar indicated, the threat is 60mph wind with quarter sized hail.

5. **Left-click and hold** on the **"Drag me to Storm"** marker and **drag it to the feature** you want to track (e.g. inflow notch).

6. WarnGen allows you to use a dot for tracking one storm, or a line for tracking a line of storms. The line tool takes a little getting used to, so we will start with the default one storm dot.

7. **Step back 3-4 volume scans** in the main display panel using either the

7 **Step back 3-4 volume scans** in the main display panel using either the arrow keys or the buttons in the toolbar.

- This is probably one of the most important, yet frequently overlooked, steps in creating an accurate polygon in WarnGen. Moving the dot from one frame to the next (instead of separating the dot move by 3-4 frames) typically yields poor motions and bad polygons.

8 Again, **left-click** on the **feature marker** (dot) and **drag it to the same feature** you originally tracked in Step 5.

9 **Review several frames of the loop** forward and backward in time to **ensure that the storm motion vector is accurate** for the storm feature you are tracking.

- If the track is not satisfactory, keep repeating Step 5-9 to refine the storm motion vector, making sure to leave at least a few frames between repositioning the tracking dot to prevent noisy motions.
- Depending on the feature you are tracking, this process can sometimes take several iterations before obtaining an accurate estimate.
- **This vector is critical for the warning polygon and the warning text to be accurate**!

10 Task Complete!